

Automobile Show Closes--Steve Griffin at Mt. Clemens

NOT MANY DAYS NOW BEFORE COLTS REPORT FOR SPRING WORKOUT

Griffin at Mt. Clemens, Taking Baths in Preparation for Season's Struggle—John Mace Sends In Signed Contract—Work on Park Progressing Rapidly.

BY GUS MALBERT.

As nearly as the office statistician can figure there are just 4,665,600 seconds, each fraught with the gravest of possibilities, between the time your eyes scan these lines, O gentle reader, and the day when the spike-hoofed individuals will start the annual baseball Marathon in the Virginia League. Merely to assuage your grief at contemplation of these figures, the same statistician adds that between now and the time Stephen Griffin arrives 2,246,400 seconds will have been ticked away.

Naturally, chief interest centres in the last set of figures. After the arrival of Mr. Griffin there will be plenty to occupy the attention of all. Scraping acquaintance with the newcomers; learning the good and bad qualities of the applicants; searching record books to find whether the aspiring young "uns" are showing quite as much as the figures of a year before seemed to indicate; fanning wisely as to whether this old favorite or that new favorite will deliver; comparison of the local talent with what has been corralled in the other towns of the circuit; watching exhibition games and hoping that the locals will pull a victory when judgment says they haven't a chance—these are some of the things with which the interested may regale themselves before the war-paint is smeared and the rival tribes destroy the pipe of peace and substitute the tomahawk.

Griffin at Mt. Clemens.

In twenty-six days Griffin will be with us. It's a long time, to be sure; but not so long as it might be. He will bring with him several of his recruits, and will start to work from the jump. At present Steve is in Mt. Clemens, Mich., enjoying the baths and doing the preliminary work of conditioning indoors. If the weather is as propitious in the Wolverine State as it is in Virginia outdoor exercise could well be indulged in.

Steve Griffin is coming to Richmond this year with a stock of new tricks. Incidentally, while the Virginia League is rated as a class "C" organization, every manager promises to pull some real league stuff during the season. That's the way with Griff. He, together with the other leaders, realizes that in the development of new material lies the greater profits from the game. To sell men and to bring out saleable material is the desire of every manager. There is a steady market for ball players, and it is really to the minor leagues that the majors must look to recruit their ranks. No manager in the big leagues wants to waste time teaching a recruit the elements of the game, and the bush manager turning out the most nearly completed product is the fellow the men under the big top are looking to.

No Team of Veterans.

Griffin will not have a crew of veterans. Most of the fellows will be youngsters. The team will average about twenty-one years in age. With this pliable material in hand, he will be able to mold any kind of machine he wants. Regular baseball will be played by each of the teams in the organization. The old slippish methods of hit or miss, too long the case here, will be tabooed. More ball playing with brains will be required of the men. Almost any backlotter can play mechanical baseball. To get up and take a throw, or slam the ball occasionally, are only the beginnings of baseball intelligence, the three R's of the game, as it were. The real fellow is the one who thinks, who isn't willing that the manager do all of the thinking for the outfit.

Many plays are started and never finished because the men failed to pick up the signals of the manager. Brains set in ivory are of no value to a ball club. The youngster, for instance, on the paths, with the play in front of him, who can't think quicker than the man handling the ball on the defensive, has much to learn. There are a number of details which the fan rarely notices. It is the completed play which appeals to the grandstand, but the several steps in reaching the completion are usually overlooked. No one who has ever watched Steve Griffin handle youngsters will doubt his ability. Not all of the things he knows have been given to the public, because the opportunities have not arisen. This year he will make the opportunities.

While few veterans will be found in the line-up, all of the men have had experience. It will be that happy medium between old men

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RECORD ENTRIES IN A. B. C. TOURNEY

Toledo Meeting Officially Launched With Much Speech-making—502 5-Man Teams.

Toledo, Ohio, February 22.—With one of the largest entry lists in its history as an attraction, the thirteenth annual tournament of the American Bowling Congress opened to-night in the Terminal Auditorium.

For the tournament the congress installed sixteen alleys, which are complete in their construction as the manufacturers could possibly make them. The opening took on the semblance practically of "Toledo Night." After a speechmaking program, sixteen teams, representing various departments in a local automobile plant, stepped to the alleys and inaugurated the tournament. Toledo's 109 teams will complete their schedule by Wednesday night of next week.

Secretary Langley says the outside entries this year surpass previous tournaments. In all there are 502 five-man teams, 1,455 two-man teams and 2,267 individuals entered. The prize list will total \$21,040, which is two-thirds of the total amount sent in for entrance fees.

Chicago has the largest entry of any city, with seventy-eight five-man teams. The bowlers will come from practically fifteen States and Canada. The champions of the 1912 tournament were the Brunswick All Stars of New York. In the five-man teams; Phil Sutton and N. Owen, Louisville, in the doubles; and Larry Sutton, Rochester, N. Y., in the individuals. Phil Sutton, of Louisville, was champion in the all events.

Landgraf Visits Here. E. C. Landgraf, last year's owner of the Richmond franchise in the United States League, and later reported as having secured a franchise in the recently formed Interstate League, in visiting cities of New York and Pennsylvania, was in Richmond yesterday.

GRIFFIN BEGINS WORK ON SPIDERS

Preliminary Training for Baseball Candidates Starts at Richmond College.

This week marked the beginning of activities in the Spider baseball camp. About sixty men reported for practice.

The local institution is especially fortunate in securing the services of Harry Griffin as coach this spring. Besides being an alumnus of the college, he is well known in Richmond as one of the most dependable men on the local club of the Virginia State League.

As usual, the first week's practice has been rather light, consisting of batting practice mostly, the coach trying to guard the youngsters from cutting loose too soon.

Only five letter men are back this season, but with the recruits from the class teams of last year and the large bunch of applicants from the freshman class, the coach will have abundant material for the making of a championship team.

So far Griffin has been able to tell but little about his bunch of hopefuls, but if numbers count for anything, he should be able to pick out one of the best teams that has represented the college in recent years.

The squad is badly handicapped by a lack of facilities for practice, the diamond being in terrible shape, but Mr. Carter, superintendent of the grounds, promises to have this remedied in short order.

The schedule is considerably changed from that of last year, the trip being up in Maryland this spring, where Manager Luck has arranged to play some of the best college teams in and around Washington and Baltimore.

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JOE TINKER, OF CINCINNATI REDS



Frank Chance and John McGraw are not the only ones who are engaging the interest of the baseball world at this time. A goodly portion of the spotlight is occupied by the redoubtable Joe Tinker, the former shortstop of the Cubs, and now the manager of the Cincinnati Nationals. Since taking up his managerial duties, Tinker has acted like a man who knows just what he wants, and has a fairly clear idea of how to go after it. While he has never before been tried out as a manager of a team, he has, as a player, made the reputation of a man who is always on the job, and likewise onto it—not a bad quality for a manager to start out with.

Tinker recently has added some real players to his team, and there will be nothing surprising in the matter if he makes his club a contender for the pennant during the coming season.

HOPPE AND CLINE PLAY EXHIBITION

Champion Billiard Player of World Will Be Seen Here at Jefferson Hotel.

Billy Haskins, manager of the billiard room at the Jefferson Hotel has about completed arrangements whereby Willie Hoppe, champion billiard player of the world, and Harry Cline, always a contender for championship honors, whether at 18.1 or 18.2, will play an exhibition series in Richmond. The match will be played sometime after the 18th of next month in the auditorium of the Jefferson. A special table, one of regulation size, with match cushions will be shipped here direct from New York for the engagement. The mere announcement that Hoppe and Cline are to play will create interest in the local camps, and a capacity house is sure to greet the experts.

M'GRAW STAGES FIRST BALL GAME

Governor Colquitt, of Texas, Watches Jim Thorpe Pull Some Spectacular Stuff.

Marlin, Tex., February 22.—Manager McGraw staged the first real ball game of the spring training season here this afternoon for the edification of Governor Colquitt, of Texas. Only three innings were played, but they brought out all the big league stars now gathered in Marlin.

Larry Doyle's Pots were easily defeated by Harry McCormick's Kettles, by a score of 5 to 0, with Christy Mathewson and George Wiltse pitching for the Kettles, against Jeff Tesreau and Al Demare.

Jim Thorpe gave quite an exhibition of first basing, and a throw by him after catching a foul to second base, heading off McGraw, was one of the features of the occasion.

Jeff Tesreau is in the best condition of any of the ball players here with the possible exception of Thorpe.

Mathewson is also in better condition right now than he usually is at this season of the year. McGraw says that he intends trying Southpaw Dave Robertson as a pitcher if he is right.

GUNBOAT SMITH BEGINS TRAINING

Starts Work for His Match With Bombardier Wells—Willard Wants Reinstatement.

New York, February 22.—Gunboat Smith, who is matched to box Bombardier Wells in Madison Square Garden on March 14, began training today at the Sharkey A. C. Joseph Willard, the Texas heavyweight, informed Billy Gibson, manager of the Garden A. C., that he intends to come here shortly and exonerate himself of the charge that he ran out of a bout with One-Round Davis in Buffalo, for which he was recently suspended by the boxing commission.

Willard asked Gibson for a match with the winner of the Smith-Wells bout, and Gibson wired back that he would make the match, provided the commission reinstated him. If Willard is restored to good standing he will meet either Wells or Smith in the Garden in the first week in May.

STATE SERIES TO NAME CHAMPIONS

Amateur Ball Clubs From All Cities in Virginia Plan Intercity Games.

Plans for a series of post-season amateur ball games between the winning teams of each of the cities of the State are now being formed. Amateur baseball is now organized in Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News, Hampton, Lynchburg, Roanoke, Petersburg and Richmond. All have practically the same rules, and a contest for the championship of the State would prove of great interest.

Roanoke has started the ball rolling by challenging the champions in Richmond. Elmore Hines, secretary of the Roanoke club in the Virginia League and president of the amateur league in the Magic City, has sent the challenge to this office. He is willing to play the games under any fair conditions, and is not at all averse to bringing his champions to Richmond for the contest.

An effort will be made to get representatives from each of the cities having organized amateur baseball to meet in this city for the purpose of effecting a State organization and making definite arrangements for a championship series.

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TAPS SOUNDED ON AUTOMOBILE SHOW

General Merry-making Ends Week of Profit to Public and Dealers.

SURE TO BE PERMANENT

Success of First Effort Insures Exhibition as an Annual Feature.

Richmond's first automobile show passed into sainted memory at 11 o'clock last night, to the hoek honks of a hundred motor horns and the burlesque tears of the cabaret performers. There was no sadness of farewell. The end was happy as a marriage bell, which, despite a touch of triteness, still stands as the beyond-which-there-is-nothing figure of I should worry.

The beginning of the end came at 10:30 o'clock, when Rue Brown and entire company, also Vess Ossman, broke into "Good-by Everybody," trailing a melody in a long snake dance round and round the parked machines. Vess sobbed stage sobs beneath a snow white handkerchief, and the girls shook hands with everybody within reaching distance of the line. When the line broke rank and the orchestra broke into the exit march, the motor horns broke loose, and for fifteen minutes the Horse Show Building rocked to its topmost rafters. Then the dancers and singers wrapped their filmy draperies about them and sallied forth into the night, the cops cleared the building of the stick-around squad, and the show was over.

A Financial Success. "The show has been a financial success," said Manager T. B. Hutchison. "We had pioneer work to do, and pioneer work is expensive. Automobile shows that will follow this one will have an easier road to travel. They will profit by our mistakes—for, of course, we made some. Everything considered, however, Richmond's first automobile show has been an all-around success. Our receipts have paid all expenses of the exhibition, and will provide a modest surplus, after wiping out the deficit caused by the automobile dealers' show."

That from the manager. Officers of the Automobile Dealers' Show Association repeated the story. Every one of these that could be seen last night said that he was perfectly, completely, absolutely satisfied with the show, the money it took in, the crowds it brought, the advertising it carried in its wake, and the sales which it made possible.

Will we have another show next year? Of course we will, and one every year thereafter. God bless the Commonwealth. Without exception every one connected with the auto show in an official capacity expressed the belief that the annual Richmond automobile show will be one of the city's fixed exhibitions. We hope so.

Good Crowd Turns Out. For a Saturday night crowd, the one that turned out last night was remarkable. It filled the immense structure comfortably, stacked them in groups of four and seven in the show cars, jammed them in a solid mass in front of the band stand. It remembered, in passing, that a Saturday night crowd dearly loves the movies and the lighted ways.

Early in the evening, Miss Mildred Grubb, of the club, started a popular movement for a fund with which to buy a goodby gift for Miss Rue Brown, leading woman of the cabaret company. She enlisted the aid of several other enthusiasts, who began making the rounds of the exhibitors. Within an hour after the movement began, the committee had all the money it needed. A flying trip downtown, and the thing was done. The money was invested in a gold bracelet. Miss Brown kissed her thanks to the crowd.

Sheltering Arms Housed to the crowd. The \$200 prize in the voting competition. The Baptist Home for Aged Women was second in the race, and City Virginia Home for Incubables was third.

Richmond Gets Berger. Auburn, N. Y., February 22.—Chairman John H. Farrell, of the National Board of Arbitration of the National Association of Baseball Leagues, tonight announced decisions which included the following: To Portsmouth, Va.; C. E. Berger, to Richmond.

RICHMOND WANTS BOWLING TOURNEY

Strong Bid for Intercity Games of 1914 Will Be Made by Local Men.

A positive effort will be made by Richmond to secure the intercity bowling tournament in 1914, to be played between teams from Richmond, Washington and Baltimore. A committee composed of President Sam Williams, of the Richmond Bowling Association; Jake Rowsey, of the Palace, and McFarland, of the Newport Alleys, will attend the meeting of the Washington City Bowling Association, when the question will be definitely settled as to whether Richmond or Baltimore is to have the tournament.

The local committee will show that Richmond is amply able to take care of the bowlers. The alleys will be in prime shape, and the visitors will be royally entertained. It is known that the Washington men favor Richmond, though they are still open to conviction and will listen to the arguments advanced by Baltimore. Richmond will be able to muster at least thirty-five five-man teams should the tournament be held here, while the prize list will be even more attractive than that offered in Washington.

It has not definitely been decided when the conference is to be held in the capital city, but it is expected within the next few days.

RIVERS WALLOPS BROWN FOR KEEPS

"Kayo," From Broadway, Goes to Sleep Under Punches Handed by the Mexican.

TAKES AN AWFUL BEATING

Gameless Marks Battle Put Up by New Yorker, Who Pluckily Stood Punishment.

Los Angeles, February 22.—Little "Kayo," Brown finished flat on his back with his eyes closed and his feet turned to the sky. A lily stick in his hands would have completed a picture guaranteed to bring joy to the calloused heart of a Tucson undertaker.

Joe Rivers, California's best fighting man, did for the New York lightweight in the tenth round of the scheduled twenty-round contest in the Vernon arena of the Pacific A. C. Brown was so clearly knocked out that Referee Riton did not dignify the final scene by the usual counting-off system.

Early in the tenth Rivers cashed a punch that he already had tried for and missed as many as ten or twelve times. As Brown was backing away from a clinch Joe whiplashed a right punch like the strike of a rattlesnake. His glove settled under the Broadway boy's chin and backwards flopped Brown, his heels flying high in the air.

It was a terrible blow, and would have stopped a less durable man than Brown. With his arms and legs trembling under his weight, "Kayo" pulled himself to an all-fours position and waited while Riton counted off nine seconds, coming to his feet on "ten" with no more general idea of his whereabouts than that he was located somewhere between San Pedro and Harlem.

Again Rivers proved that he is not the coolest man in the ring.

Eager to finish his victim, he rushed in and punched Brown in the face with a series of blows. Another right reached Brown's jaw and again he tottered to his knees. This time the beaten boy was so far gone that he did not take advantage of the count, but staggered to a standing position, a helpless target for the excited Mexican.

A second time Rivers rushed in wild fashion, carrying Brown far across the ring to a neutral corner. The right finally reached the battered Brown chin, and "Kayo" went tumbling to the canvas. Twice he took the count in his hands.

Rivers Rights Himself.

And now Rivers righted himself. While the referee counted, Joe stepped back and put the rim of the wrist of his right glove over his teeth, pulling the knuckle covering tight for a possible smash. As Brown came up on the count of ten, Rivers feinted him until his smeared jaw stood out bare in the light. Then, with a swish of the bronzed arm, a thrust, and the Californian's fist landed under the ear, and Brown was lifted high off his feet, coming to the floor on his back without making a quiver of action remaining in his limbs. Riton stepped over for another count, but seeing at a glance that Brown was "cold," he merely waved toward Rivers in indication that the 133-pounder had failed.

The only counting left to register against the loser is that he did not know when he has had enough. Brown is the original Berkshire kid. He was whipped in the third round, but refused to admit it. From this point until the final bell in the seventh round, he was hanging on to his job.

From his corner Rivers signaled to the press row that he had been stalling, and what followed in the tenth would seem to justify this claim, although there is no doubt that Joe was both angry and worried at the way Brown was hanging on to his job.

Throughout the contest Rivers had been trying to swing his right to the jaw as Brown's eyes were exceedingly bright, says Buck. From advice received he expects a large squad to report for practice, and since Hooker knows every angle of the game, he is sure to turn out a winner. There are few men playing baseball to-day who have anything on the local product when it comes to an accurate and working knowledge of the finer points of the game. Given even only fair material, Hooker will turn out a baseball line which will be a credit to the Orange and Maroon. He has not decided where he will play after the season starts, but, being a free agent, will look over all offers before signing a contract.

HOOVER LEAVES TO COACH V. P. I.

Local Ball Player, Declared Free Agent, Will Handle Candidates for Honors at Blacksburg.

Buck Hooker, recently declared a free agent by the National Association of Professional Baseball Clubs, in spite of the announcement by Jack Grim that the local topper had been sold, along with other members of last year's Newport News club, to Bristol, in the Appalachian League, will leave Tuesday for Blacksburg, where he will take charge of the baseball team at V. P. I. Prospects for a good club at the Blacksburg school are exceedingly bright, says Buck. From advice received he expects a large squad to report for practice, and since Hooker knows every angle of the game, he is sure to turn out a winner. There are few men playing baseball to-day who have anything on the local product when it comes to an accurate and working knowledge of the finer points of the game. Given even only fair material, Hooker will turn out a baseball line which will be a credit to the Orange and Maroon. He has not decided where he will play after the season starts, but, being a free agent, will look over all offers before signing a contract.